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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/450,747	10/21/2003	Philippe Hocquet	2088.001800/14.0178-PCT-U	5331

7590 07/23/2004

Mark W Sincell
Williams Morgan & Amerson
Suite 1100
10333 Richmond
Houston, TX 77042

EXAMINER

SOTELO, JESUS D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3617

DATE MAILED: 07/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/450,747

Applicant(s)

HOCQUET ET AL.

Examiner

Jesús D. Sotelo

Art Unit

3617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 June 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/16/2003.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-12 are in the application.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 4-11 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim should refer to other claims in the alternative only, and can not depend on any other multiple dependent claim See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims have not been further treated on the merits.

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The use of multiple alternative phrases in the claims make these claims indefinite for it is not possible to determine the metes and bounds of the claims.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Russell et al, Michelsen, Klein, and Rhyne et al disclose buoyant cable towing systems.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jesús D. Sotelo whose telephone number is 703-308-2563. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri. 6:00 AM -2:30 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Samuel J. Morano can be reached on 703-308-0230. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jesús D. Sotelo
Jesús D. Sotelo 7/21/04
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3617
CPK 5-6D16 ☺

sotelo;jds
July 21, 2004

Form PTO-1449 (modified)

Atty. Docket No.
2088.001800Serial No.
Unknown

10/450747

List of Patents and Publications for Applicant's

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant(s)

PHILIPPE HOCQUET and OTTAR KRISTIANSEN

Filing Date:

Group:

U.S. Patent Documents
See Page 1Foreign Patent Documents
See Page 1Other Art
See Page 1

U.S. Patent Documents

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date of App.
	A1						
	A2						
	A3						
	A4						
	A5						
	A6						
	A7						
	A8						

Foreign Patent Documents

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes/No
	B1	EP 0 613 025 A	08/13/1994				Yes
	B2	WO 00 76839 A	12/21/2000				Yes

Other Art (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Citation
	C1	PCT International Search Report, PCT/IB 01/2498, dated 12/12/01
	C2	
	C3	
	C4	
	C5	
	C6	
	C7	

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: INITIALS IF REFERENCE CONSIDERED, WHETHER OR NOT CITATION IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH MPEP609; DRAW LINE THROUGH CITATION IF NOT IN CONFORMANCE AND NOT CONSIDERED. INCLUDE COPY OF THIS FORM WITH NEXT COMMUNICATION TO APPLICANT.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT — PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)

Best Available Copy

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 10/450,747	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination HOCQUET ET AL.	
	Examiner Jesús D. Sotelo	Art Unit 3617	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
	A	US-3,613,629	10-1971	Rhyne et al.	114/245
	B	US-3,703,876	11-1972	Michelsen, Finn C.	114/244
	C	US-4,055,138	10-1977	Klein, Martin	114/244
	D	US-6,234,102	05-2001	Russell et al.	114/253
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.



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BIBDATASHEET

CONFIRMATION NO. 5331

Bib Data Sheet

SERIAL NUMBER 10/450,747	FILING DATE 10/21/2003 RULE	CLASS 114	GROUP ART UNIT 3617	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 2088.001800/14.0178-PCT-U
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APPLICANTS

Philippe Hocquet, Vanves, FRANCE;
 Ottar Kristiansen, Oslo, NORWAY;

** CONTINUING DATA *****
 This application is a 371 of PCT/IB01/02498 12/12/2001

** FOREIGN APPLICATIONS *****
 UNITED KINGDOM 0030746.2 12/16/2000

Foreign Priority claimed 35 USC 119 (a-d) conditions met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no Met after Allowance	STATE OR COUNTRY FRANCE	SHEETS DRAWING 4	TOTAL CLAIMS 12	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 1
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Verified and Acknowledged *[Signature]* Examiner's Signature *[Initials]*

ADDRESS
 Mark W Sincell
 Williams Morgan & Amerson
 Suite 1100
 10333 Richmond
 Houston, TX
 77042

TITLE
 Deflector devices

FILING FEE RECEIVED 1310	FEES: Authority has been given in Paper No. _____ to charge/credit DEPOSIT ACCOUNT No. _____ for following:	<input type="checkbox"/> All Fees <input type="checkbox"/> 1.16 Fees (Filing) <input type="checkbox"/> 1.17 Fees (Processing Ext. of time) <input type="checkbox"/> 1.18 Fees (Issue) <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Credit
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Search Notes

Application No.

10/450,747

Examiner

Jesús D. Sotelo

Applicant(s)

HOCQUET ET AL.

Art Unit

3617

SEARCHED

Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner
114	253, 245	7/21/04	JS

INTERFERENCE SEARCHED

Class	Subclass	Date	Examiner

**SEARCH NOTES
(INCLUDING SEARCH STRATEGY)**

	DATE	EXMR
East	7/21/04	JS.

Index of Claims



Application No.

10/450,747

Examiner

Jesús D. Sotelo

Applicant(s)

HOCQUET ET AL.

Art Unit

3617

✓	Rejected
=	Allowed

—	(Through numeral) Cancelled
+	Restricted

N	Non-Elected
I	Interference

A	Appeal
O	Objected

Claim		Date											
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Art Unit: 2155

the work load of the administrators and increase their speed in executing tasks (col. 4, lines 7-19).

27. As to claims 9 it has similar limitations of claim 2; therefore it is rejected under the same rational.

28. As to claims 16 it has similar limitations of claim 2; therefore it is rejected under the same rational.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shawki S Ismail whose telephone number is 703-605-4362. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on 703-306-6662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Shawki Ismail
Patent Examiner
July 9, 2004


HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER